

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 07067 132139Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

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INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 7067

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, (ANGEL JONES, STUART), BR

SUBJECT: CASE OF STUART ANGEL JONES

REF: A. STATE 159156 B. BRASILIA 6022 C. STATE 181445

1. EMBOFF (ACTING POL COUNS) MET AFTERNOON AUGUST 11 WITH MINISTER PAULO FRASSINETTI, CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICAN DIVISION, AND BEGAN BY REVIEWING GROWING INTEREST IN THE US IN THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, GROWTH WHICH EMBOFF NOTED WAS PARTICULARLY NOTICABLE AMONG RELIGIOUS AND OTHER GROUPS, IN THE CONGRESS, AND IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. EMBOFF REFERRED TO RECENT ACTION ON CHILE AND TO PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS BETWEEN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND THE AMBASSADOR AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS, AND ADDED THAT IN DECLARATIONS REGARDING OUR CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, USG OFFICIALS NOTED THAT INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE ISSUE WERE COMPLICATED, BUT THAT OUR CONCERN IS BASED ON CONVICTION, AND WE DEPLORE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHEREVER THEY OCCUR. FRASSINETTI EXPRESSED AWARENESS OF US CONCERN, MENTIONING THAT HE HAD JUST READ A "PROJECT" OF CONGRESSMAN DANTE FASCELL WHICH PUT HUMAN RIGHTS AT FOREFRONT OF US FOREIGN POLICY.

2. WITHIN THIS CONTEXT, EMBOFF WENT ON, SPECIFIC CASE HAD RECENTLY ARISEN, INVOLVING STUART ANGEL JONES, SON OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN. FRASSINETTI IMMEDIATELY IDENTIFIED STUART'S MOTHER, EXPLAINING THAT THEY HAD AN INQUIRY FROM SENATOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRASIL 07067 132139Z

HUMPHREY (THROUGH BRAZILIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON). HE ADDED THAT

INFORMATION THEY HAD SO FAR ON THE CASE WAS TO THE EFFECT THAT STUART HAD NOT BEEN IN CUSTODY OF BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES.

3. EMBOFF SAID THAT DEPT HAD RECEIPT LETTERS FROM SENATOR SPARKMAN (REQUESTING A FULL REPORT) AND FROM CONGRESSMAN NOLAN (EMBOFF LEFT COPY OF LETTER WITH FRASSINETTI), THAT MRS. JONES HAD APPARENTLY VISITED A GOOD MANY PEOPLE ON CAPITOL HILL, AND THAT SHE HAD ALSO CALLED AT THE DEPT, ACCOMPANIED BY MEMBER OF A CONGRESSMAN'S STAFF. IN RESPONSE TO FRASSINETTI'S QUESTION, EMBOFF SAID SHE WAS RELATING THAT STUART HAD BEEN ARRESTED, TORTURED, AND HAD DIED, AND THAT THERE WAS TESTIMONY TO THAT EFFECT.

4. FRASSINETTI NOTED THAT MATTERS OF THIS SORT ARE OUTSIDE THE DIRECT COMPETENCE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SAID THEY WOULD CHECK WITH "THE AUTHORITIES" AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US. EMBOFF SAID WE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM THEM, AND ADDED THAT OF COURSE, THE MORE INFORMATION THAT COULD BE PROVIDED, THE BETTER FOR ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.

5. COMMENT: AS DEPT AWARE, WE HAD ORIGINALLY CONTEMPLATED AN APPROACH WHICH WOULD INVOLVE SUBSTANTIAL DOCUMENTATION OF THE CASE AS PUT FORWARD BY MRS. JONES, AND WHICH WOULD ALSO CONVEY AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE THE CLIMATE IN THE US AND ELSEWHERE (I.E. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL) SURROUNDING THE CASE. BEYOND THE FACT THAT REFERENCE TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS AN AUTOMATIC AND COMPLETE TURN-OFF WITHIN THE GOB, HOWEVER, THE DOUCMENTATION RELIES HEAVILY AND SPECIFICALLY ON ALEX POLARI DE ALVERGA'S TESTIMONY. ALTHOUGH IN A CONVERSATION IN RIO WITH CONGEN POLOFF MRS. JONES SAID SHE HAD AUTHORIZED CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM TO USE THE DE ALVERGA LETTER TO SUPPORT A LETTER HE WAS WRITING TO SEVERAL COLLEAGUES, SHE LATER MENTIONED TO THAT OFFICE (SEE MEMCON OF JULY 31 AND AUGUST 6 POUCHED TO ARA/BR AND ARA/LISTER) THAT DE ALVERGA'S MOTHER WAS WORRIED HE MIGHT SUFFER IF HIS TESTIMONY RE STUART WERE USED. WHILE IS WAS USED IN THE PAST, AND IT MAY BE USED AGAIN IN ONE OR ANOTHER APPROACH BY SOMEONE TO, E.G., BRAZILIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON, WE ARE, PENDING SOME CHANGE IN HE FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS, RELUCTANT TO USE IT OURSELVES FOR FEAR OF ENDANGERING JONES, WHO IS STILL IN CUSTODY, AS THE DEPT KNOWS. (JONES FAMILY PRESENTATIONS HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BRASIL 07067 132139Z

ADDITIONAL DISADVANTAGE OF DISINGENUOUS PORTRAYAL OF STUART'S POLITICAL ANTTIVITIES WHICH CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH ONE PROVIDED BY HIS LAWYER (RIO 5853, AUGUST 1971) AND WHICH PROVIDES GOB EASY TACTICAL RIPOSTE TO IMPUGN RELIABILITY OF OTHER, MORE BASIC FACTS OF THE CASE AS PRESENTED BY THE FAMILY.)

6. WE WILL, OF COURSE, STAY IN TOUCH WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY REGARDING RESPONSE, WE SEE NO REASON TO EXPECT THAT IT WILL

BE ANY DIFFERENT FROM OFFICIAL RESPONSE IN THE PAST.

7. FINALLY, SEARCHES IN SAO PAULO, RIO, AND HERE HAVE
REVEALED NO SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION O THE CASE
BEYOND THAT MENTIONED REFTEL B. END COMMENT. CRIMMINS

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